

1. ~~Mr Muston~~  
2. ~~Mr Morley~~ Parry  
3. ~~Mr Perry~~

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# Urban District of Windermere

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## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1969

Stricklandgate House, P.O. Box 18, Kendal

Telephone Number: Kendal 23502

KENDAL

TITUS WILSON & SON LTD.

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## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area of the Urban District in acres	...	...	...	9,723
Population at 1961 Census	...	...	...	6,562
Population (Registrar-General's mid year estimate)				7,680
Inhabited houses	...	...	...	2,939
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£346,763
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£1,325
Rate in the Pound levied	...	...	13/2d. to 14/10d.	
of which the County Rate was	...	...	...	8/8d.

The Urban District of Windermere lies in a long narrow strip down the east side of the Troutbeck Valley and for four miles along the east bank of Windermere Lake. The District slopes steeply from a level of about 800 feet in the east down to the Lake which lies at about 130 feet above sea level. The slopes are well wooded and exquisite vistas of most of the Lake District are obtainable throughout.

The geology of the Urban District comprises in the southern half steeply dipping Kirkby Moor Flags in the Upper Ludlow Series of the Silurian System. In the northern half the rocks are Coniston Grits in the Wenlock Series of the Silurian System. At the extreme north in the Troutbeck Valley, there are thin beds of Taranon Shales, pale slates, Coniston Limestone, and then occur the Borrowdale Volcanic Series. There are occasional areas of glacial drift and some alluvial deposit in the valleys.

The climate is mild and equable. The valley bottoms are sheltered from the prevailing westerly winds, and the open aspect to the south-west provides full access to sunshine. Temperature gradient inversions are frequent at night but are soon dispelled in the morning. The rainfall varies between 70 and 75 inches a year, but this figure is due more to the heaviness of the rain when it comes rather than to an undue proportion of rainy days. Snow may be expected for one or two weeks in the late winter.

The District is mainly residential in character, divided between the local folk who work there, people who commute daily to the nearby town of Kendal, and an ever changing group of people who have holiday houses or come to live here on retirement.

There is also a huge seasonal influx of holiday visitors to enjoy the amenities of the National Park. Many of them stay in the hotels and boarding-houses, and many thousands more come for the day by coaches and private cars, particularly since the motorways have brought Windermere within easy distance of the great northern and midland conurbations.



The seasonal fluctuations of the tourist trade are balanced to some extent by a few local light industries, such as the building of small boats, coffins, confectionery, and machine tools, in addition to the customary service trades for the area. The variety of these opportunities for local employment, and the nearness of Kendal, has with emigration kept Windermere happily free from unemployment. Economic security and local prosperity are important factors in the maintenance of the public health.

### STAFF.

Name	Qualifications.	Office.	Whole or Part Time.	Other Offices.
Madge, F. T.	M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health	Part	M.O.H. Combined County Districts of Westmorland
Shepherd, D.	F.A.P.H.I. F.F.S. Cert. S.I.B.	Public Health Inspector	Part	Building Surveyor
Machell, B. M.	—	Clerk to Medical Officer of Health	Part	Clerk to M.O.H. Combined County Districts of Westmorland

### Staff Changes.

There were no staff changes during the year.

## VITAL STATISTICS

The following extracts are made from information supplied by the Registrar-General, with figures for last year for comparison.

Area of the District in acres ... .. 9,723

	1968	1969
Estimated civilian population (mid year) ..	7,530	7,680
Live Births. Legitimate— males .. ..	49	41
females .. ..	45	39
Illegitimate— males .. ..	8	1
females .. ..	4	5
Total .. ..	106	86
Crude Rate per 1,000 population	14.1	11.2
Corrected Rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	19.1	15.2
Birth Rate for England and Wales .. .. .	16.9	16.3
Illegitimate Birth Rate per 1,000 live births .. ..	113	69
Still Births. Legitimate— males .. ..	—	—
females .. ..	—	—
Illegitimate— males .. ..	—	—
females .. ..	—	1
Total .. ..	—	1
Total (live and still) births ..	106	87
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. .. .	—	11
Rate for England and Wales ..	14	13
Deaths. males .. .. .	47	50
females .. .. .	44	65
Total .. .. .	91	115
Crude Rate per 1,000 population ..	12.1	15
Corrected Rate per 1,000 population	6.6	8.3
Rate for England and Wales ..	11.9	11.9

	1968	1969
Infantile Deaths (under 1 year)		
Total deaths under 1 year.. ..	2	1
Rate per 1,000 live births .. ..	19	12
Rate for England and Wales .. ..	18	18
Legitimate .. .. .	2	1
Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.2	13
Illegitimate .. .. .	—	—
Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	—
Neonatal Deaths (under 4 weeks)		
Total neonatal deaths .. ..	2	1
Rate per 1,000 live births .. ..	19	12
Rate for England and Wales .. ..	12.3	12
Early Neonatal Deaths (under 1 week)		
Total early neonatal deaths .. ..	1	1
Rate per 1,000 live births .. ..	9.4	12
Rate for England and Wales .. ..	10.5	10
Perinatal Mortality		
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week.. .. .	1	2
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. .. .	9.4	23
Rate for England and Wales .. ..	25	23
Maternal Mortality		
Total Deaths .. .. .	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .. .. .	—	—
Rate for England and Wales .. ..	0.24	0.19

Deaths from certain causes:—

	1969.	1970.
Cancer ... ..	18	22
Measles ... ..	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough ... ..	Nil	Nil

The main causes of death were:—

Heart Disease ... ..	38
Cancer ... ..	22
Cerebro-vascular Disease ... ..	20



## COMMENTARY ON THE VITAL STATISTICS.

### **Population.**

The population at the 1961 Census numbered 6,562 persons, comprising 2,868 males and 3,694 females. Over the past four decades, since the 1931 Census, the population has increased about 8% which is a fairly stable rate, and a more reliable index than considering just annual changes. It is the general trend of population which is important for the planning of future housing, water and sewerage requirements, and for the broader issues of the economic prosperity of the District.

Indeed the Registrar-General reckons that our local resident population has steadily increased during the past seven years. His estimate for mid year 1969 has risen to 7,680. And on top of that we have many hundreds of temporary resident visitors in our hotels, boarding-houses, caravans and camping sites: plus many thousands of day visitors during the holiday season. No one can count them, but we have to cope with their needs.

We have a much higher proportion of elderly people in our local community than in most other districts. The average percentage of people over 65 years of age in England and Wales was 11.9% at the 1961 Census, and the average for Westmorland was 14.9%. Windermere Urban District had the high figure of 18.6%. It means that the younger age-groups will have to keep awake to provide the community support which elderly people need to make their survival achievements worthwhile.

### **Birth Rate.**

Our local community are now showing a satisfactory birth rate. It is not simply a question of having an elderly population that led to so many years of poor reproduction: there were other complex social factors.

Our corrected rate for the present year is below the national average.

### **Death Rate.**

The corrected death rate was much below the average for England and Wales, although the crude rate was higher due to the elderly population.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE

DISEASE	Total	Ages										Admitted to Hospital	Deaths	
		-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-			45-
Measles .. ..	3	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery .. ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL .. ..	4	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The general incidence of illness can be assessed by the weekly number of new claims for sickness benefit at our local National Insurance offices. A logarithmic graph of those figures shows a regular seasonal pattern over the years, and any variations are usually worth investigating. The general level is some measure of the local community health.

Under the new Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations, 1966, which became operative on 1st October, 1968, Acute Meningitis, Infective Jaundice, Leptospirosis, Tetanus and Yellow Fever were added to the list of diseases required to be notified. Pneumonia, Puerperal Pyrexia and Erysipelas are no longer notifiable.

I am most grateful to my colleagues in general practice, and in the hospital services, for their prompt help in notifying infectious diseases. The control of the most serious of these illnesses is one of the most important duties of our department.

1969 was a particularly fortunate year for notifiable diseases, with only 3 cases of measles and 1 dysentery.

Immunisation against measles is still too recent to assess its results in our own locality. But we are hoping that it will eventually be as successful as the other immunisations against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, smallpox, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis.

No cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

The number of tuberculosis patients on the register at the year end were:—

		1968.	1969.
Respiratory	...	5	4
Non-Respiratory	...	1	—
		—	—
		6	4
		—	—

### Hospital and Ambulance Arrangements for Infectious Diseases.

Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases is provided by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board at Beaumont Hospital, Lancaster. Smallpox cases will be admitted to the Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital near Bury.

Ambulance transport for cases of infectious diseases is provided by the Westmorland County Council and is based in Kendal.



## **The Hospital Services.**

Our District lies in the area of the Manchester Regional Hospital Board, and most of the general needs of our local people have historically been met by the Westmorland County Hospital in Kendal. Some of the more specialised services have always had to be referred to distant centres. This has been understood and accepted by our local community.

In recent years there have been signs that our local folk may be forced to rely more on Lancaster, and less on Kendal. Some people think that Westmorland risks being left rather ill-served if the hospital services concentrate themselves on distant Lancaster and Carlisle. There is a lot of territory in between, and public transport limitations are making it increasingly difficult for outpatients and visiting relatives to get to those hospitals and home again the same day.

The other side of the story is the fact that modern science has caused the hospital services to become more specialised, with expensive equipment and highly trained staff. Yet our national political system has not been able to keep pace with the shortage of doctors and nurses, technicians and secretaries. Both money and manpower are falling short of the needs.

So it all boils down to a rationing system for hospital care. That often means waiting weeks or months for an appointment to trail to some distant outpatient clinic for specialist consultation, waiting months or years for the chance of a hospital bed, and then maybe a somewhat hurried discharge. It is not the fault of anybody in particular: it is simply because the nation will get only what it is prepared to pay for.

One special service which has caused us the greatest worry has been the provision of hospital beds for our elderly people. Not only for their own sake to be looked after somewhere near their homes, but also for the sake of their visitors, who are often elderly themselves.

Since the National Health Service started, some twenty years ago, our elderly people have gone into the geriatric hospital at Kendal Green as their first choice for a medium or long stay hospital bed. A few may have gone into Westmorland County Hospital for treatment of acute conditions, or perhaps to Lancaster or other distant centres for diagnostic assessment or some special treatment: but Kendal Green Hospital has been the mainstay for our local geriatric needs.

The hospital authorities' 1962 plans for closing Kendal Green Hospital were vigorously opposed by our Westmorland folk, with



the result that it has been reprieved for a long time ahead, by refurbishing and plans for building extensions. This has provided a much better standard of comfort and service for the patients, and efficient working conditions for the staff.

The price of reconditioning Kendal Green Hospital was more than the money involved. It meant that we lost a lot of beds. From the old overcrowded total of between 70 and 80 beds, the new look provided only about 50 beds. No one would cavil at the extra comfort and elbow room, but the overflow had to go somewhere else. They were packed off to the back of beyond.

Some had to be diverted to distant Meathop, the erstwhile tuberculosis sanatorium: some were taken away into the re-designated old mental hospital wards at even more distant Lancaster Moor: and some of our Westmorland folk with slow-dying cancers were banished away over to the far side of the Pennines to end their lives at Ilkley.

We reckoned that any overflow of geriatric patients who could not be found beds in Kendal Green Hospital, ought to be served by somewhere else in Kendal or nearby, within easy travelling distance through the summer traffic and the winter snows. We saw a chance of this when the Ethel Hedley Hospital became due for closure.

It was a children's orthopaedic hospital, nominally with 50 beds, beautifully sited on the shore of the lake between Windermere and Ambleside. We saw it as capable of conversion for a slightly smaller number of geriatric hospital beds, easily accessible for patients and visitors.

We pressed our case for this humane cause, with the help of Westmorland's Member of Parliament, right up through the hierarchical administration of the hospital service, to the courteous reception of our local deputation by the Secretary of State, and a subsequent debate in the House of Commons. We lost.

We shall now have to keep a sharp eye on the extent of our local overflow after completion of the additional ward being built at Kendal Green Hospital: and see where else the hospital authorities try to send our old folk away. One thing is certain, we have plenty of battle experience if we need to return to the fray.

## **HOUSING.**

### **The Housing Acts.**

Under the Housing Acts your Council has a duty to consider the general housing conditions in your District, to ascertain whether any are unfit for human habitation, and to assess the need for further houses. You have powers to deal with unfit houses, powers to provide new houses for all classes, and various powers and duties in the management of your Council's housing estates. Good housing conditions are an integral part of public health.

### **Present Housing Position.**

The number of inhabited houses in your District is 2,939. With an estimated population of 7,680, the average number of persons per house is 2.6. This is not a high figure for a desirably-sized family, but the 1961 Census showed that 347 houses had only one occupant, and another 779 had only two.

There appears to be little overcrowding within the strict definition of the Housing Act which assumes that living-rooms are used also for sleeping purposes, and that the sexes can be segregated irrespective of age, health and family relationships. At the time of the 1961 Census there were 2,237 private households living in 2,228 structurally separate dwellings.

It is probable that overcrowding is temporarily increased during the peak of the holiday season, but no certificates under Section 80 of the Housing Act, 1957, have been granted by your Council to authorise exceeding the permitted numbers.

### **General Progress of Slum Clearance.**

Westmorland as a whole has made very encouraging progress in post-war slum clearance despite all the difficulties of the times. Since the campaign was resumed in 1948 well over 1,300 houses in the County have been dealt with by formal action under the Housing Acts. Most of these will eventually be demolished or converted to trade use, but many of them have been reprieved by their owners undertaking to spend considerable money for comprehensive reconditioning up to modern standards. In addition to these formal actions for the renovation of substandard houses, either with the aid of improvement grants or entirely by private enterprise. The aim is to save a house wherever possible, but if it cannot be brought up to an acceptable standard of safety, decency and amenity the sooner it is swept away the better.

The following paragraphs analyse the action taken during the current year and are mainly for record purposes and statutory returns.



### **Closing Orders.**

*Housing Act, 1957. Section 28.*

No closing order was made during the year. There were 10 closing orders on the Register of Local Land Charges at the year end. All the dwellings were unoccupied at the year end.

### **Undertakings not to use for Human Habitation.**

*Housing Act, 1957. Section 16.*

No such undertakings were accepted during the year. There were 6 undertakings on the Register of Local Land Charges at the year end. All were unoccupied.

### **Undertakings to Repair.**

*Housing Act, 1957. Section 16.*

There were none during the year and none were outstanding.

### **Improvement Grants.**

*House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.*

During the year 4 standard grants were made for the improvement of houses, making a total of 119 since the commencement of the scheme. No Discretionary grant was made during the year.

### **Demolition Orders.**

*Housing Act, 1957. Section 17.*

No demolition orders were made during the year. None remained outstanding on the Register of Local Land Charges. Two of the Calgarth war-time hutments remain, one is still occupied, but both are scheduled for demolition.

Seven cottages were demolished during the year for road widening at Quarry Mount on Lake Road.

### **Clearance Areas.**

*Housing Act, 1957. Section 42.*

A small area of 7 old cottages and jumbled outbuildings at Lowside, Bowness, was officially represented during 1966, and your Council resolved to proceed by compulsory purchase order. The order was confirmed in 1968. One of these houses was still occupied at the year end. The rest are awaiting demolition.

### **Four Years' Programme : 1970-3.**

Circular 92/69 required an estimate of slum clearance actions for the next four years. As our previous programmes had dealt so well with our needs, we estimate that only about a couple of substandard houses per year will merit formal condemnation procedure. Even those may be saved by re-conditioning.

### **Estimated Requirement for New Houses.**

At the year end there were 188 applicants on your Council's waiting list for rehousing. To what extent your Council should meet this demand is quite another matter. But however many houses you decide to build, I trust that you will continue to bear in mind the specialized needs of the high proportion of elderly people in your District.

### **Housing Building Progress.**

Since the end of the 1945 War, 497 houses and flats have been built by your Council. In the same post-War period, 668 were built by private enterprise. Eighty-four of them this year.

Another useful activity has been the conversion of old large houses or other buildings into flats and maisonettes. 181 extra dwellings have been created in this way since the war ended in 1945.

Special mention is deserved for your Council's provision at Birthwaite. This is a semi-dependency neighbourhood precinct, purpose-built for elderly people, with 20 single flatlets and 5 double flats. A resident Warden service is provided by co-operation with the Welfare Department of Westmorland County Council. It was officially opened during 1965 and seems to be a great success.

Our District is recognized to have a high proportion of elderly folk, and the need for small-sized houses, bungalows and flatlets continues.

### **Housing Management.**

Your Council now own 565 permanent dwellings. Routine repairs and maintenance are carried out partly by direct labour and partly by local contractors. Rents vary from 36/- to 72/6d. per week, exclusive of rates, and the rateable values of the Council houses are between £36 and £95.

### **Housing Nuisances.**

Visits were made to investigate complaints in houses, leading to the service of 41 informal notices and no statutory notices, for their remedy. In no case was it necessary to obtain a Court Order.



### **Certificates of Disrepair.**

There were no applications for certificates, no proposals to issue such certificates were served and no undertakings to carry out the works were accepted by your Council. No certificates were served to owners.

### **Dangerous Buildings.**

No notices were served during the year.

### **Caravans.**

No new licence was issued during the year, and the total number of current operative caravan site licences was four at the year end.

On the whole the site management of these amenities and the general conduct of the users have been satisfactory. Overnight parking of touring caravans at Braithwaite Fold car park is proving a valuable service to everybody.

### **Tented Camping.**

No new licence was issued and one was in force at the year end. The site at Barker Knott Farm was closed by the owner during 1969. Your Council imposes conditions upon the grant of licences and requires their annual renewal. As this District is within the National Park it is most desirable that strict but unobtrusive supervision should be exercised over camping sites to ensure that the natural beauty of the country is not despoiled by the careless few.

Unlicensed camping sites are scattered throughout the District but very little nuisance arises from casual campers. The improvised sanitary arrangements and refuse disposal cause little trouble, but the campers take water from polluted becks at their own risk.

## **WATER SUPPLIES.**

The public water supply is adequate in quantity and generally satisfactory in quality. It is under the administration of the Lakes and Lune Water Board, on which your Council has representation. I record my appreciation of the help and liaison of the officers on the Board.

Your Council continue to have a responsibility to check that the quality of the public water supply is maintained safely for preserving the public health. Periodical tests are made on samples of water from consumers' taps, and some of the results are set out in Appendix 'A' to this report.

The sources of water are upland surface, with catchments and storage reservoirs at Dubbs in the north of our District, and Ghyll Head to the south. There are also connections to the Manchester Corporation Thirlmere aqueduct. The local sources are treated in various ways, including chemical sterilization. Fluorides are not added. The natural fluorine and radioactivity levels are low.

Most of the houses in our District are connected to the public supply, but about a hundred outlying ones have their own private supplies. No houses nowadays have to rely on standpipes.

I have no official knowledge of the quality of the private water supplies. I can do no more than warn the users that they drink it at their own risk: that they should have it tested for purity as often as may be: and that if in doubt they should boil it.

### **Baths and Hot Water Systems.**

The 1961 Census revealed that about 13% of unshared dwellings in our District had no fixed bath. Although far from satisfactory, it is an improvement since the 1951 Census when about 25% were without.

The 1961 Census showed also that 7½% of such households are without a hot water tap. There is still a lot to be done to bring our older and smaller cottages up to modern standards. I hope that grants will help to achieve this. I am sure that the 1971 Census will show what good progress we have made.

## **SEWERAGE.**

The greater part of your District is provided with public sewerage which was installed during the past 60 years.

Sewage has to be pumped to Tower Wood at two points on the system. The first pump is situated at Calgarth and the second at Bowness Bay. There are storm water overflows in connection with each of these plants for the excess to pass directly into the Lake.

Major reconstruction of the sewage disposal works at Tower Wood was carried out in 1967, with new sedimentation tanks and additional filters and sludge disposal plant.

Most of the houses which are not within the sewered area use cesspools and septic tanks. Some of the older houses still linger on with pail-closets and privies, mainly in the more outlying parts of our District. There were no conversions to water-closets during the year.

## **Public Conveniences.**

The popular spots for tourist visitors, and our main shopping areas, are well served by public conveniences, most of them with washing facilities installed.

Some of the more outlying places present a need, particularly near the Ferry, and in the area of Rayrigg Meadow and the nearby Miller-ground swimming pool.

At the year end a block of public conveniences, and a septic tank, were being built at Ferry Nab, and expected to be completed in the spring of 1970.

## **Lake Craft Sanitation.**

I am not happy about the amount of crude sewage which is dropped overboard from houseboats, cabin cruisers and lake steamers on Windermere. It seems to be increasing every year and it can be rather unpleasant. Something better is needed. Your Council are exploring the possibilities of providing a disposal point near Ferry Nab for craft users to empty their chemical-closets ashore.



## **PUBLIC CLEANSING.**

### **Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

Domestic refuse is collected from the whole of your District with the exception of a few detached and isolated dwellings. Your Council's own vehicles and staff are used for this work.

Your Council opened their present tip at Lindeth in 1957 and undertook to carry out fully-controlled tipping to the standards laid down by the Ministry of Health. That promise will require the expenditure of sufficient money to provide adequate labour and machines on the site and a proper amount of covering material. Otherwise nuisances and public health risks will be created. The provision of a bulldozer during 1969 made a great improvement.

### **Street Cleansing.**

This work is undertaken by the Highways Department and the streets are well maintained.



## FOOD HYGIENE.

### General Powers.

Your Council bear most of the statutory responsibility for safeguarding the public from foodborne diseases. The main aim is directed towards securing proper and hygienic conditions for the manufacture, preparation and sale of food. The secondary aim is to trace and localise any outbreaks of disease which may occur in spite of preventive measures.

### Precautions against Contamination.

Food hygiene is steadily improving throughout your area. Public opinion is well ahead of the law and most traders are aware of the fact. The good food trader, does not need official instruction in basic cleanliness or in the enforcement of legal minimum standards. He may welcome advice on technical problems, but his aim is how high he can get, not how low he can get away with.

The responsibility for safe food does not rest entirely with the trader, as the housewife must play her part as well. Quite a lot of strange things happen to food between the shop counter and the dinner plate, and the educational campaign has had to be carried into the home. Foodborne diseases, mild dysenteries and attacks of diarrhoea and vomiting are not infrequent in our homes and among our visitors. I am confident that higher standards will reduce these preventable diseases.

### Ice-Cream Trade.

The following premises were registered:—

Manufacture by hot mix, cold mix, storage and sale	...	3
Manufacture by cold mix, storage and sale	... ..	1
Storage and sale only	... ..	61

### Food Trade Categories.

The Secretary of State requires me to furnish certain details about the categories of food trade carried on during the year. They are set out in the adjacent table.

Regulation 16 relates to the requirement for providing wash-hand basins, and Regulation 19 relates to the requirements for providing facilities for washing food and equipment used in food businesses.

## Food Trade Categories.

Category of Premises	Number	Number fitted to comply with Reg. 16	Number to which Reg. 19 Applies	Number fitted to Comply with Reg. 19
Licensed Hotels and Inns ..	14	14	14	14
Private Hotels .. .. .	24	24	24	24
Boarding Houses .. .. .	Not Known	—	—	—
Off licence premises .. ..	4	4	4	4
Nursing homes and similar ..	6	6	6	6
Bakehouses .. .. .	4	4	4	4
Fish and Chip Shops .. ..	2	2	2	2
Industrial Canteens .. ..	2	2	2	2
Cafes and Snack Bars .. ..	31	31	31	31
Butchers Shops .. .. .	9	9	9	9
Fishmongers and Greengrocers ..	9	9	9	9
Grocers .. .. .	19	19	19	19
Clubs .. .. .	4	4	4	4
Wholesale Depots .. ..	4	3	3	3
Manufacturers and Bottlers ..	4	4	4	4
Large Private Schools .. ..	3	3	3	3

## Prepared Meats.

The number of premises on the Register for the preparation of sausages, potted meat, preserved meat, pressed meat and pickled food was 17 at the year end. No particular difficulties have been encountered in these trades.

## Liquid Eggs.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the District.

## Poultry Processing.

There are no poultry processing premises in the Urban District.

### **Milk Registrations.**

There were 48 registered distributors and 5 registered dairies which were not dairy farms. Three of these dairies are used only as milk stores. No particular difficulties were met, and milk-round vehicles were generally maintained in good condition.

### **Pathogenic Organisms in Milk.**

Biological and other test results on 108 samples taken by various Authorities, from sources in our area, continued to be passed to me.

Special attention was directed towards the organisms of brucella abortus in the above samples. None were found.

I had no cause during the current year to serve any notices under the Milk and Dairies Regulations to restrict the sale of milk or the activities of milk-handlers. Comparable or better results were obtained by informal action in co-operation with the local Veterinary Surgeons, to whom my thanks are recorded.

### **Condemnation of Meat.**

All slaughtering is carried out at the Kendal Abattoir where the meat is inspected by the Borough Inspectors. No meat was condemned during distribution within your District.

### **Condemnation of Other Foods.**

The following foodstuffs were condemned by your Inspector during the year:—

Ham	38 lbs.	Beef	84 lbs.
Vegetables	81 lbs.	Potatoes	4½ cwts.
Fruit (Assorted)	442 lbs.	Fish	30 lbs.
Evaporated Milk	13 pts.	Rice Pudding	11 lbs.
Fruit Juice	2 pts.		

### **Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.**

The Secretary of State requires me to describe the current methods for the disposal of condemned food. In this District it is buried or burnt at the Council's refuse tips.



## **GENERAL INSPECTIONS.**

We are still experimenting with the latest staff reorganization for providing a Public Health Inspector to carry out your Council's statutory duties.

Until 1956 there was the old traditional combined appointment of Sanitary Inspector with Engineer and Surveyor, but then the changing functions of local authorities divided the combination to make the Engineer and Surveyor a full-time separate post.

That left the sanitary inspection functions high and dry. There was not enough work in Windermere to justify a full-time Public Health Inspector all the year round while things remained quiet. But our District receives thousands of summer resident-visitors, day-trippers, travellers and week-enders.

We tried to get over the difficulty by sharing a public health inspector part-time with South Westmorland Rural District, but it proved too inflexible an arrangement for our renowned holiday-resort, with too great a reputation to risk.

So in 1964 the public health inspector post was absorbed back into full-time employment by Windermere Urban District Council, but notionally allocated for six sessions, or half-days, per week for public health inspection duties, and the other four sessions per week for work with housing management and general duties in the Engineer and Surveyor's department.

There are obvious advantages in having a public health inspector who also combines duties in the spheres of housing management, tenants selection, and building works. The concept involves both flexibility and elasticity, but it provides a reserve of power to meet public health emergencies, whenever they may occur, and we are experimenting to see how the scheme works out in practice by producing sufficiently adequate results in the ordinary routine public health inspection duties of our Council.

I record my appreciation of his help and work during the year.

### **Offensive Trades.**

There are no offensive trades in the District.

### **Factories.**

There are 44 factories on the Register. 35 inspections were made. No written notices were issued and no prosecutions were required.

No references were made to H.M. Inspector of Factories and none were received from her.

No lists of outworkers were supplied to your Council by factory owners, and I have no official knowledge of any cases of default in this respect.



H.M. Inspector of Factories has been given details of your Urban District's administration of the relevant sections of Parts I and VIII of the Factories Act, 1961.

### Factory Inspections.

Premises.	Number of Premises.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	4	4	—	—
Factories not included in (1), in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority .. ..	40	31	—	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	44	35	—	—

No defects were found.

### Offices and Shops.

*Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.*

This legislation makes provision for the safety, health, and welfare of people employed in these premises.

138 visits were made during the year.

Type of Premises	Registered at year end	Inspected during year	Persons Employed
Offices .. .. .	54	28	168
Retail Shops .. ..	99	57	331
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses .. .. .	4	4	15
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ..	35	34	298
Totals .. ..	192	123	812

No written notices and 11 verbal notices were served for contraventions discovered.

**Pest Control.**

Your District is covered by the South Westmorland Joint Pest Control Board. Regular visits are made to your refuse tip, which seems to attract rather an undesirable number of rats. Service is also provided under contracts for many other premises in your area.

**Rent Acts.**

No action was taken during the year under the Rent and Mortgage Interest Restriction Acts, and no contraventions regarding rent book entries were encountered.

**Clean Air.**

No notices were served during the year to abate smoke nuisances.

**Compulsory Removals.**

*National Assistance Acts, 1948-1951.*

Three people were kept under my eye during the year, because I was notified that they were thought to be incapable of looking after themselves and were not being helped enough by others. They have been kept going for the time being with some extra help, and I did not have to seek a Court Order.

Such cases are extremely distressing to deal with, and the course of compulsory removal is reserved to meet the emergencies of a last resort when all other methods of help have failed. Sometimes it is very hard to decide what is really in the best interests of the patient.

**Public Mortuary and Post-mortem Room.**

Your Council have long provided a public mortuary and post-mortem room at Windermere, but post-mortem examinations have not been done there for many years on account of a lack of modern facilities. The premises are now kept solely as a public mortuary.

**Laboratory Services.**

The Public Health Laboratory Service at Preston and Carlisle provide most of the facilities for our investigations. I am grateful for their help.

# **APPENDIX A.** **Laboratory Examination of Public Water Supplies.**

Nature of Test.	Standards Max.	Dubbs Treated	Ghyll Head Treated
Pr. coli-count 37° ..	3-10	0	0
Faecal coli-strep. ..	—	—	—
Date sampled last	—	16/12/69	16/12/69
Character .. ..	—	Clear	Clear
Reaction .. ..	—	6.9	7.3
Ammonical Nitrogen	.041	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.066	.04	.02
Total Solids ..	1000	80	68
Hardness {	Total ..	55	42
	Carbonate	25	14
	Non-Carb.	32	26
Chlorides .. ..	30	7	11
Nitrates .. ..	1.0	.37	.16
Nitrites .. ..	—	Nil	Nil
O.2 Absorbed ..	1.0	.64	1.12
Heavy Metals ..	—	n/a	n/a
Rainfall 24 hours ..	—	1.06"	1.06"
Date Sampled ..	—	11/11/69	11/11/69
Laboratory .. ..	—	Preston	Preston

Chemical analyses expressed in parts per million.













